

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

1-52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid that ~~contains~~ comprises a nucleotide sequence that is the complete complement of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein said nucleic acid, when introduced into a cell line that expresses a gene comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2 or which encodes a peripheral-type benzodiazepine receptor protein having a mutant threonine residue at position 147 and a mutant arginine residue at position 162 (PBR) gene inhibits the expression of the gene.

54. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 53, which has the complete complement of ~~possesses a complementary structure to~~ SEQ ID NO:1.

55. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 53, which has the complete complement of ~~possesses a complementary structure to~~ SEQ ID NO:2.

56-57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting the proliferation of a malignant cell line that expresses the PBR gene, comprising introducing into said cell line the nucleic acid an antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 53 in an amount effective to inhibit cell proliferation.

59. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting the proliferation of a malignant cell line that expresses the PBR gene, comprising introducing into said cell line the nucleic acid an antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 54 in an amount effective to inhibit cell proliferation.

60. (Currently Amended) A method for inhibiting the proliferation of a malignant cell line that expresses the PBR gene, comprising introducing into said cell line the nucleic acid an antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 55 in an amount effective to inhibit cell proliferation.

61-62. (Canceled)

63. (Currently Amended) The ~~antisense oligonucleotide~~ the nucleic acid of claim 53, which is comprised in a proteoliposome containing viral envelope receptor proteins.

64. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 53, which is present in a vector.

65. (Canceled)

66. (Currently Amended) The ~~antisense oligonucleotide~~ nucleic acid of claim 53, which is contained in a carrier.

67. (Currently Amended) The ~~antisense oligonucleotide~~ nucleic acid of claim 66 wherein said carrier is a protein selected from the group consisting of a cytokine or polylysine-glycoprotein carrier.

68. (Currently Amended) The ~~antisense oligonucleotide~~ nucleic acid of claim 53, which is comprised in a microbead.

69. (Canceled)

70. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 53, which consists of the complete complement of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2.

71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 64, which is synthesized in a mammalian cell *in vitro* following introduction of said vector into said cell.

73. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 72, which is synthesized in an amount effective to inhibit ~~PBR~~ expression of nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2 or encoding a protein having SEQ ID NO:3 in the cell.

74. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the isolated nucleic acid of claim 53, 81 or 82.

75-77. (Canceled)

78. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 74, wherein the nucleic acid is present in a vector and is synthesized in a mammalian cell *in vitro* following introduction of said vector into said cell.

79. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 78, wherein the nucleic acid is synthesized in a mammary gland cell *in vitro* following introduction of said vector into said mammary gland cell.

80. (Canceled)

81. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, or the complete complement thereof.

82. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a peripheral benzodiazepine receptor protein ~~PBR~~ comprising SEQ ID NO:3.